**Jean Batten**

**Jean Batten as you all know was a famous plane flyer. Jean Batten was the Daughter of a Dental Surgeon back when she was younger. She was born on the 15th September 1909 and died on the 22nd November 1982. By the time she was 18 years old she decided she wanted to become a pilot. She was inspired by this guy called Charles Kingsford Smith and he took her for a flight on his plane called the Southern Cross. That was Jean Batten’s first ever flight. In 1929 she moved to England and joined the London Airplane Club. She did her first solo flight in 1930 and got her plane licence by 1932. In 1938 she became the first woman to be awarded the medal of the Federation Aeronautigue internationale. World War 2 ended her flying experience and in the war she was involved in campaigns giving lectures to raise money for guns and weapons. After she died in the year 1982 her plane the Percival Gull is now on display in the terminal section in the Auckland Airport.**



